



# PARISH

of Aghagallon & Ballinderry

**PARISH ENVELOPES:** Contributing to parish life means being part of the parish family, attending Church, volunteering in the various ministries and joining parish groups and societies. However, as our parish grows and develops so does the expenditure. We have to ensure that our income covers our expenditure if we wish to have a viable parish. Prior to 2014, the deficit of the parish was over £250k over five years. Historically, the parish relied on legacies to ensure it did not go into debt. We understand that there are many reasons why some people do not want envelopes. However, envelopes are still the best way to contribute to parish life. There was a tradition in the parish to send envelopes to people moving into the parish and to the parents of children baptised here. This meant that over 400 boxes of envelopes were sent out at a cost of nearly £1000 per year but more than ¼ were never used. To save money, if envelopes have not been used for a year, we will not reissue.

**Q – I prefer to put money on the plate, why should I use envelopes?**  
 A. – Envelopes are the best way for the parish to develop a regular, accountable and transparent income that strengthens its financial position. If you pay income tax and sign a simple form, we can claim an extra 25p in every pound you donate via envelopes. This does not incur any additional cost for you. We cannot claim full gift aid on loose plate collections. Last year 145 people signed up for gift aid. Over 200 people with envelopes did not sign up for gift aid. Not all of these people are non tax payers. We claimed an extra £10, 000 last year back from the Government at no extra cost to those parishioners.

**Q. - I am a private person and I don't want people in the parish to know what I give.**  
 A. - Envelopes are registered with a number and access to parishioners' details are protected by passwords. Only office staff have access to these details for administrative purposes.

**Q. – I can't be bothered with envelopes. What if I forget to bring my envelopes?**  
 A. – Please consider an allocated box of envelopes anyway. You don't have to fill every envelope, every week. You can sign the gift aid forms and set up a weekly/monthly direct debit and the parish will benefit more. You could also consider a yearly donation paid into your envelope account.

**Q. - What do we need to do to make our parish more viable?**  
 A. – Please continue to attend Mass regularly, volunteer your time and talents in one of the many ministries or groups that are being developed and ensure that the weekly collection exceeds £1600 and the monthly collection exceeds £1350. If you don't have a box of envelopes, please consider taking one. If you are a tax payer, please take two minutes to fill out a gift aid form at the back of the Church.

## WEEKLY BULLETIN

19th March 2017

Weekly Collection  
 £ 1,246.26

Thank-you for supporting our Parish!

Recent Expenditure  
 Pastoral Services:  
 £ 8,915.00

**Weekly Mass Schedule**  
**Monday: 10.00am**  
**Tuesday: 7.00pm**  
**Wednesday: 10.00am**  
**Thursday: 7.00pm**  
*(Novena Prayers)*  
**Friday: 10.00am**  
*(First Friday 7pm)*  
**Saturday: 7.00pm**  
*(Vigil)*  
**Sunday: 9.00am & 11.00am**  
**Confessions**  
**Thursday 6:30pm**  
**Saturday: 6:30pm**

## MINISTRY OF WELCOME

**To Book a Baptism:** a parent must bring the long birth certificate to the Sacristy after any Mass. One month's notice is required. Schedule: 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month.  
**Weddings:** All couples must contact Fr Declan after any Mass six months before the date of their wedding to arrange to complete the necessary paperwork. Couples are also required to attend a pre-marriage course.

## RECENTLY DECEASED

Colm Toman Months Mind Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March at 7pm  
 Teresa McCluskey  
 Geraldine McConaghey

## ANNIVERSARIES AT THIS TIME

Roy Corrigan	Anniversary Mass Saturday 18 <sup>th</sup> March at 7pm	
Jerome Doris	Anniversary Mass Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> March at 9am	
Joan McHenry	Anniversary Mass Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> March at 10am	
Joseph McConaghey	Anniversary mass Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March at 10am	
Joseph Dougan (34)	Anniversary Mass Saturday 25 <sup>th</sup> March at 7pm	
Tony King	Anniversary Mass Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> March at 11am	
Rita Cushley		
Molly O'Neill	Margaret Toland	Margaret Jane McCrory
James O'Neill	James Toland	Niamh Mitchell
Brian Haughian	Vincent Douglas (55)	Thomas McStay
Jim Mallon (3)	Gerald Douglas (4)	Henry Lavery (24)

*There will be a second collection after Communion for Needy Parishes.*

**GIFT 3:** The next session is on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March 7pm-9pm  
**Confirmations:** Congratulations to all P7 pupils from St Patrick's and St Mary's Primary Schools who celebrated their Confirmation last week. Thank you to the teachers and all who helped making this such a special and prayerful occasion.  
**First Penance:** Please remember in your prayers the P3 children from St Patrick's and St Mary's Primary Schools who will be celebrating their First Penance in the coming weeks.  
**We wish Caolan McConville** the very best of luck and will remember him in our prayers during the Special Olympics #teamireland.  
**Retreat Day for Ministers of the Eucharist and Readers:** 8<sup>th</sup> April 10am – 4pm. Invitations will be sent out.  
**Children's/Community Choir:** The choir will sing at the 11 a.m. Mass on the second and fourth Sunday of every month during term time. We understand that family life is busy, so short practices will take place from 10.15 a.m. prior to Mass on the Sunday the choir sings. Please just 'turn up' at the first practice on 26<sup>th</sup> March at 10.15 a.m. Application /Consent forms for under 18's will be available on the day.

All insertions for the bulletin please leave in the Parochial house red post box, phone 02892651214 during Parish Office hours or email before 4pm on Tuesday e: parishofaandb@yahoo.co.uk w: aghagallonandballinderryparish.ie

**Parish Priest:** Fr Declan Mulligan  
 Tel: 028 92651 214  
**Priest in Residence:** Fr J O'Sullivan  
 Tel: 028 92652 301

**EMERGENCIES AND SICK CALLS:**  
 07831934756

**St Vincent De Paul Contact**  
 Number: 07810036763  
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